

the last day of October, 1855, when we left Copenhagen, Denmark, bound for Hull, England, to attend the annual meeting of the British and Foreign General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Gathering-Saints' Millennium Star,

The most valuable of works, the most interesting I have found, on me to write over has been over all of new since a period in my life a hundred and forty years past, more than half of which time has been spent in travel and study, and in the service of God.

God out of her, my people, that ye be not portions of her sin, and that ye receive not of her
encouragement to follow her ways.—A Voice from Heaven.

No. 35, VOL. XVII.

Saturday, November 10, 1855.

Price One Penny.

A Visit to Scandinavia.

BY ELDER DANIEL SPARROW.

107, Pitch Street, Liverpool,
Oct. 17, 1855.

President T. D. Richards.

Dear Brother.—Having returned from my visit to the Scandinavian Mission, I improve the present opportunity to give you a brief account of the same.

On the 20th of August, at 7 o'clock, A.M., I left Liverpool, in company with Elder H. C. Bright, for Hull, where we arrived at 4 p.m., and found Elder J. A. Young in waiting to accompany us to Copenhagen. After making some search for the residence of Elder Lynn, the President of the Hull Conference, without success, as he had recently changed his abode, we took lodgings for the night at the hotel.

Learning that the steamer *Eagle* was to sail on the following day, we in the morning made application to the office for tickets, when we were informed that she would not sail until September 3. On making further inquiry, we were informed that there would be no steam conveyance to Copenhagen until that time. Being satisfied that such was the fact, we resolved to make ourselves happy and useful in the Hull Conference until the time for our de-

parture. Accordingly we soon found the locality of Elder Lynn, and many other Saints, who received us with great kindness, and with whom we had many pleasant and profitable meetings during our stay. With much pleasure we witnessed the good order that prevailed in their public meetings, heard the wise counsels given to the Saints by Elder Lynn, and discovered a manifest disposition on their part to hear and obey those counsels, which I think will secure a healthy state of feeling in the Conference.

On the 4th, Elder Bright and myself visited a small Branch of the Church at Beverley. Elder Young, however, did not accompany us. The Saints we found in very good condition, enjoying much of the spirit of the Lord. We attended a meeting the same evening with the Saints, and had opportunity in speaking to them. We returned to Hull the following day.

At 3 p.m. on the 7th, we went on board the *Eagle* for Copenhagen. She is a boat of about 300 tons burthen, cabin and crew, which all our voyage was devoted to our own keeping. Captain Beaumont and lady, and another lady passenger, all of whom were quite so-

cial and friendly, making our passage very pleasant, indeed disturbed only by a few hours of rough sea, which caused all of us but the Captain and his lady to attend a little closer to our own persons. However we sustained no injury.

On the 9th we came in sight of the Swedish and Danish shores. We made a short stay at Elsinore, a small town in Denmark, about twenty miles from Copenhagen, and then proceeded on to the latter place, where we arrived about 7 p.m. The Captain, after firing two cannon, came to anchor a few rods from shore. He then left the steamer, and went in a small boat to report our arrival and names to the police office. On his return he sent us on shore. As we left our little boat we were met by Elder Van Cott, with the strongest expressions of friendship. He had been waiting and walking the beach all day, in expectation of our arrival. After a slight examination of our carpet-bags by the custom-house officers, we proceeded to the office of Elder Van Cott, where we were introduced to our very worthy brother, Elder Widerborg, and several other brethren, who were waiting our arrival, all of whom appeared quite joyful to see us, although they could not address us in a language which we understood. Elders Van Cott and Widerborg being our interpreters, we learned through them the minds of the brethren. After a short stay at the office, we were accompanied by Elders Van Cott and Widerborg to the residence of the latter, where we were received with great kindness by sisters Widerborg and Nielson, who soon prepared us an excellent supper, of which we thankfully partook, and soon after went to our lodgings.

Early next morning we were visited by many of the sisters, bringing apples and pears, and pressing invitations for us to call and dine with them. Here I would be glad to mention names, but the subsequent kindness and hospitality which we received from the Scandinavian Saints were so universal wherever we went that I cannot do justice in mentioning one without the whole. Suffice it to say, that no trouble or pains were spared by them whilst we were among them to make us comfortable and happy.

The first three days we spent in viewing Copenhagen, and in visiting the Saints residing there.

On the 13th we were invited by Elder

Van Cott and Elder Lilginquist, the President of the Copenhagen Conference, to visit some of the Branches on the South and West sides of the island of Zealand, a distance of about 14 Danish or 60 English miles. Accordingly at 8 a.m., we took the train for Roiskild, a little town about 18 English miles from Copenhagen. Here we stopped and took coffee at an hotel, after which we visited the cathedral, where we saw some of the most splendid monuments I ever beheld, many of which, we were told, cost half a million American dollars each. They were made of the finest quality of Italian marble, with almost an innumerable number of images carved upon them in the most expensive style. The building was further ornamented with a great variety of sculpture of the best workmanship. We also visited in this town the Prince's Palace, which contains a rich and beautiful assortment of paintings.

At about 11 a.m., we took the King's post coach for a little town about 24 English miles distant. There we found a small Branch of the Church, with the members of which we attended meeting that evening, and were very kindly received by them. All of us took part in the meeting, Elder Van Cott being our interpreter. At its close, Elders Van Cott and Young were invited to lodgings by a wealthy farmer, with whom they went. The following day this gentleman and his wife accompanied us to another meeting of the Saints, about 18 miles distant, where we had a large assemblage of Saints and others. The Spirit of the Lord being richly bestowed upon the speakers, the meeting was quite interesting and profitable to all. Since that time the gentleman and his wife have been baptized.

On the 15th we travelled about 30 English miles, to a town by the name of Holbeck, and took our lodgings with brother Niels Garff, who kindly administered to our wants.

On the 16th, being the Sabbath, we had a large assemblage of Saints, who seemed overjoyed to see us. The meeting was a happy one, and the Saints appeared very reluctant to leave us.

On the 17th we left for Copenhagen, taking a more westerly course along the Belt to Roiskild. Along these shores are to be seen, every few miles, large mounds, which we were informed contained the

bodies of those who had been slain in battle. These mounds we not only saw on this part of the island, but on many others. At about 1 p.m. we arrived at Roiskild, a distance of 40 English miles. Here we changed our mode of travelling, leaving the spring wagon for the railway car, and proceeded on to Copenhagen, where we arrived at 4 p.m., having travelled over one hundred miles in the agricultural part of the island during our journey. The land is in a high state of cultivation, the surface very beautiful, in some places resembling the American Western prairies, in others exhibiting smooth hills and occasionally a forest which had been planted by the inhabitants. The land is mostly unfenced, and the people tie up their horses, cows, and sheep to graze. The mode of farming and the implements of husbandry now used among this people I think must have had their origin several hundred years ago, with but little or no improvement since. The same may be said of this people, in all their different avocations in life, so far as I had an opportunity of judging.

The 19th being Conference day for the Copenhagen Conference, we occupied our time until then in visiting the Saints, and in examining the pleasure grounds belonging to the city, which we found very beautiful.

At 10 a.m. on the 19th we met the Saints in a very commodious building, which was filled to overflowing, the President of the Conference, Elder Lilginquist, presiding. In this meeting, all the Elders from the Valley took part, bearing testimony of what we had witnessed and what we knew; that we were intimate acquaintances of brothers Joseph Smith and Brigham Young, and knew them to be Prophets of God, and commissioned of Jesus Christ to administer in the ordinances of God's house; that the Holy Priesthood was upon them, and we had witnessed the sick healed, the deaf made to hear, the blind to see, and the lame to walk by the power of that Priesthood through the laying on of hands and the anointing of oil; and that all the honest, meek, and humble of the earth where this Gospel had been preached were rejoicing and praising God. These testimonies; together with the presence of the Prophet Brigham's son, Elder J. A. Young, whose intelligent countenance and wise deport-

ment were strong collateral evidence of the truth of our testimony; also the powerful addresses from Elders Van Cott, Widerborg, Lilginquist, and many more native Elders; accompanied by the irresistible power of the Spirit of the Lord; lit up a fire in the souls of all present, which shone through their countenances like the noon-day sun.

Although we could not understand the language of the native Elders, and were dependent upon the kindness of Elders Van Cott and Widerborg to interpret it, the Conference was of unusual interest to us, and will long be remembered among our happy days. At the close of the meeting it appeared that none of the Saints in the house could leave without presenting us with a smiling countenance and a hearty shake of the hand. The Conference continued about three days, fully attended each day.

During our stay in Copenhagen, we attended several Priesthood meetings, and meetings of the Saints. Our constant desire was to ascertain the condition and future prospects of the Scandinavian mission, and I am happy to say that the good order in the meetings, the due respect paid to each individual officer in his place, the manner of keeping records and books, and the peace and union which pervade the hearts of the Saints are not surpassed in the oldest Conference in England. The Saints are very punctual and prompt to respond to all calls from the authorities, liberal in their donations, and strong in faith. They have, as a general thing, been respectable farmers and mechanics, with their families, who have embraced this work in that country; and such were constantly inquiring and being baptized wherever we went. Although the Elders have met with much opposition, from priests, mobs, and prohibitory laws, in speaking of the Gospel in public assemblies, there have been many added to the Church the past year, and I believe the time not far distant when this will be the most important mission in Europe.

On the 21st, accompanied by Elders Van Cott, Haight, Young, Widerborg, Lilginquist, and our honourable landlord, I took a ride of about five miles into the country, to witness a sham fight between the King and Prince Ferdinand, with some 15,000 soldiers. The fight continued about four or five hours, with a constant discharge of

cannon and small arms. After one party had retreated or was driven about five miles, both parties then partook of bread and wine and dispersed, not leaving any dead on the ground. In our travels that day, a holiday, among so great a number of people, and in all our travels in Copenhagen and on the island of Zealand, we saw no man drunk, nor heard an angry word spoken, every man apparently attending to his own business.

While the officers were partaking of the bread and wine, we drew near to the King, not to fight, don't you imagine, for we were full of peace and good will to mankind, but to judge of the thoughts of his heart. His appearance was that of a plain, social, honest man, unassuming and uninspiring, willing that all men should enjoy their rights.

The day passed off quite pleasantly. Having a carriage at our disposal, we could either walk or ride, as we chose, with our worthy landlord to instruct us. And I will here say that the treatment we received from him and his lady was very kind and genteel indeed, and for which they have our respect and esteem.

From that day until the 24th we spent our time in visiting museums and other public places, and also among the Saints. Early in the morning of the 24th, the day we were to leave for Stockholm, we sent for our passports, which we deposited, the day after we arrived in Copenhagen, in the hands of the Captain of the Police. The messenger returned, saying the officer wished our presence, that is, that of Elder Young and myself. We accordingly appeared before his honour, who opened my passport, asking to which of us it belonged. I replied, "It is mine, sir." He said to me, "This is dated in 1852, it will not do—you should have come directly here." I told him that I was not aware of that. He then asked me where I had spent my time since the date of my passport. I replied, "Mostly in England." I then asked him if my passport was in the usual legal form. He replied it was. I then asked him if there was any limitation of time as to its validity. He said there was. I then asked him if he would have the goodness to inform me at what time the validity of my passport had expired. To this he made no reply, but asked me my occupation and place of destination. After detaining us about half an hour to send to our

landlord for his receipt or certificate of the payment of our board bill, and putting a few questions to Elder Young, the officer permitted us to take our finished papers and withdraw.

At 5½ p.m., in company with Elders Van Cott and J. A. Young, (Elder Haight preferring to remain at Copenhagen,) I took a steamer for Gottenburg, on our way to Stockholm. The sea was smooth and our passage pleasant. We arrived at Gottenburg, about 10 a.m. of the 25th, a distance of about thirty Danish miles. We stopped at the Goth-akill hotel, where we dined only, having to go on board our steamer early that evening, as she was to sail at 4 a.m. next day, to take us to Stockholm.

Gottenburg contains 30,000 inhabitants, and appeared quite dull and inactive. The stench from the sewers was quite offensive as we passed the streets. There were several cases of cholera when we were there, and we thought there was a good foundation for many more, unless the people speedily cleansed the city. As there were no Saints in the place, Elder Van Cott has since made arrangements to locate one or more Elders there.

At 5½ a.m. on the 26th, we left Gottenburg, on board a beautiful iron steamer, to traverse rivers, lakes, and canals through Sweden, a distance of 400 English miles, and rising or falling by locks a height of 400 feet. We passed through some twenty different lakes. These, together with the picturesque scenery on the banks of the rivers, lakes, and canals, the social company, and the pleasant sailing, with the exception of a few hours rough sea to add a little variety, made our voyage truly interesting and delightful. The country through which we travelled appeared to be thinly inhabited, and the principal occupation of the people exporting pine timber, in which the country abounds.

At the summit of the waters is the town of Charlottenburg, containing several mills. One wood saw-mill we visited, where we found six carriages with two logs upon each, and with sufficient saws applied to finish the sawing at one running through, except squaring the edges of the boards or planks.

At the outlet of the large lake at this place are what are called the Eastern Niagara Falls, said not to be inferior to any, except the Niagara Falls in the State of New York.

At 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m. on the 28th we landed in Stockholm, and made our way to the Paris Hotel, situated in a beautiful square, with the King's palace in front, and his theatre on the left. After securing our lodgings at the above hotel, Elder Van Cott visited the Elders who were labouring in that city. He made an appointment with them for a general meeting of the Saints the following evening, which we accordingly attended, and were received by them with great gladness.

It is but a few months since there was but one Saint in this place. Elder Van Cott, learning the situation of the place, sent Elder Jenson from Copenhagen to labour among the people. His labours being successful, Elder Van Cott soon after sent another Elder. Both of these are now labouring in Stockholm. The Branch numbered 18 members. Two were added to that number while we were there, and I think several more, who were believing the doctrine at the time we left, have been baptized since, one of whom was a Baptist priest of much influence among the people.

Our meetings while there were held at the houses of respectable citizens who did not belong to the Church, it being their special request to have the Saints meet there. Although the law of the kingdom forbids the assembling of more than ten at one time and place for lectures, our company far exceeded that number, but the occupants of the house were quite willing to take the responsibility.

The general desire of the people, so far as I could ascertain, is to have religious liberty. An officer of the government will not punish an offender against this law unless constrained by fear. All the people are in favour of abolishing this law, except the Lutherans, who are the governing power at present in that land. Could this restraint be removed, we might look for a greater increase to the kingdom of God from this country than any other I have any knowledge of. The people generally have the appearance of being quite honest, and are almost universally strong believers in the Old and New Testaments. They are humble, peaceful, and industrious. When Elder Van Cott was addressing the congregation, as he was filled with the Holy Spirit, we could see the influence of the love of truth, and gratitude to God, shining in each countenance, both those in and those out of

the Church. The Branch being small, the Elders have been under the necessity of labouring for their support. But now, they design devoting most of their time to the ministry. Their custom is to visit from house to house and converse with all that may come in their way, distribute tracts and other publications, changing their places of public meeting every Sabbath, giving to those who are friendly and favourable to the work special invitations to attend. The organization of this Branch, and the arrangement of its records are complete, as you may judge from their being established by Elder Van Cott. He is soon to petition the King of Sweden, in behalf of those Scandinavian Saints, who belong to Sweden, for the privilege of worshipping their Creator according to the deases of their hearts, not encroaching upon the rights of others; setting forth their former loyalty to his Majesty, and their determination to be equally, loyal as long as they continue to be members of his kingdom, but earnestly soliciting the favour mentioned above. All the sects of religionists in the kingdom will, I have no doubt, join in this, except the Lutherans, whose interests might not be so much advanced by it. But my desire, and prayer to God are that the petition may prevail, for this people have surely enlisted my strongest sympathies in their behalf.

After visiting the Saints, we returned to our lodgings, where we all knelt before the Lord, thanking Him for our deliverance from danger on our journey, and for the blessing of health which we had enjoyed from the commencement up to that present moment, and for the joy and rejoicing which we had caused in the hearts of the few in that city who had come to a knowledge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as revealed in the day in which we live; imploring blessings upon the king and the people; asking the Lord to overturn, and overrule governmental affairs, so that the people might worship him according to the dictates of His Holy Spirit, and that He would prepare the way before His servants who were then labouring there, and those which might be raised up to labour in that part of his vineyard, that the meek and humble of the land might rejoice in the fulness of the Gospel of His Son Jesus, consecrating the government, land, and people, for the building up of Zion, and establishing peace and

liberty upon the face of the whole earth. We all felt happy in our exercise before the Lord on this occasion, and we have faith that the work there will receive a fresh impetus.

After visiting the King's palace, and all the most interesting places in the city, we took our farewell of the Saints, leaving our parting blessing with them, having received from them the strongest tokens of kindness and friendship during our visit.

In the morning of October 4th, at 9 o'clock, we left Stockholm on board the steam ship *Borea*, and entered the Baltic Sea for Eastlad, a distance of 450 English miles, where we arrived on the 6th. Eastlad is a small town in Sweden, where we understood there were a few Saints. But as we arrived at 8 a.m., and had to leave at 9½ a.m., we had no time to look them up. But we retired to the hills, a short distance from the city, and knelt before the Lord in prayer for His blessing upon the people of that place, asking Him to cause labourers to go forth in that part of His vineyard to administer words of life and salvation to the people. We returned to the hotel and took breakfast. From thence we went to the steamer, which conveyed us to Copenhagen, where we arrived at 5 o'clock the same evening, all in good health and spirits, and receiving a hearty welcome from Elders Haight and Widerborg and all the Saints. We had spent about 12 days in our absence from Copenhagen, very agreeably to ourselves, and we trust somewhat profitably to others. To the liberality and kindness of Elders Van Cott and Lilginquist do we owe much of the pleasure of this journey.

I am happy to say that the proficiency which Elder Van Cott has made in obtaining the Danish language is sufficient to enable him to speak fluently in public, and for the transaction of all business that pertains to his office. The ambition and zeal which he has had for the success and prosperity of the Scandinavian Mission have been deemed by him of more importance than his own health and constitution. Hence they are much impaired, and he feels quite justified in embracing your kind offer to release him from the responsibility of the mission. He will leave with the entire confidence and blessing of that whole people upon him.

Elder Haight has made very good progress, for the little time he has been here,

in learning the language, and I have no doubt that he will soon be able to converse and do business in it. We recommended him to the Saints as he should arrive at the Presidency, assuring them that he was a man of God, full of blessings for them, and would be a father to them if they would observe his teachings and counsels. He was quite well received by the Saints, and we left him feeling cheerful and happy.

In the course of my remarks before the Priesthood and the Saints in Copenhagen, I took the liberty of tendering them your thanks for the prompt response to the calls which you had made upon them through their President, Elder Van Cott, and assured them that your blessings were upon them, and your prayers constantly before the Lord for their success and prosperity. At my leaving, many wished a special remembrance to you.

On the morning of the 11th we sent for our passports, to the aforesaid captain of police, who sent them without delay, and at 10½ a.m. I and Elder Young left Copenhagen for Hull, via Kiel, Altona, and Hamburg. We arrived at Kiel on the 12th at 6 a.m., at Altona at 10½ a.m., and at Hamburg at 11 a.m. There we spent until the 14th, when at 3 a.m. we set sail for Hull, where we arrived at 8½ a.m. on the 16th. From thence I took train to Liverpool, where I arrived at 4 p.m., having left my fellow-traveller and agreeable companion, Elder J. A. Young, at Hull, to take the 11 a.m. train for Bradford, he having accompanied me in all my travels on this visit, receiving the kindness and friendship of the Saints wherever we went, as being truly one of the Lord's anointed.

Fearing that you will consider my assertions of brevity, made in my introductory remarks to this report, as invalidating testimony against my subsequent statements, I will close, trusting all to your superior judgment and kindness to correct errors, that the future may be better.

With sentiments of high regard, and constant prayers to our God for your success and prosperity in the discharge of your arduous duties, I subscribe myself, as ever, your friend and brother in the Gospel of Christ,

DANIEL SPENCER.

History of Joseph Smith.

(Continued from page 694.)

[April, 1840.]

In the Times and Seasons of this month is a prospectus for publishing, at Nauvoo, a weekly paper, to be called *The News.*

To all people unto whom these presents shall come, Greeting—

Be it known that we, the constituted authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, assembled in Conference at Nauvoo, Hancock County, and State of Illinois, on the sixth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty, considering an important event at hand, an event involving the interest and fate of the Gentile nations throughout the world—from the signs of the times, and from declarations contained in the oracles of God, we are forced to come to this conclusion. The Jewish nation have been scattered abroad among the Gentiles for a long period; and in our estimation, the time of the commencement of their return to the Holy Land has already arrived. As this scattered and persecuted people are set among the Gentiles as a sign unto them of the second coming of the Messiah, and also of the overthrow of the present kingdoms and governments of the earth, by the potency of His Almighty arm in scattering famine and pestilence like the frosts and snows of winter, and sending the sword with nation against nation to bathe it in each other's blood; it is highly important, in our opinion, that the present views and movements of the Jewish people be sought after, and laid before the American people, for their consideration, their profit, and their learning.

And feeling it to be our duty to employ the most efficient means in our power to save the children of men from the "abomination that maketh desolate," we have, by the counsel of the Holy Spirit, appointed Elder Orson Hyde, the bearer of these presents, a faithful and worthy minister of Jesus Christ, to be our Agent and Representative in foreign lands, to visit the cities of London, Amsterdam, Constantinople, and Jerusalem; and also other places that he may deem expedient; and converse with the priests, rulers, and elders of the Jews, and obtain from them all the information possible, and communicate the same to some principal paper for publication, that it may

have a general circulation throughout the United States.

As Mr. Hyde has willingly and cheerfully accepted the appointment to become our servant and the servant of the public in distant and foreign countries, for Christ's sake, we do confidently recommend him to all religious and Christian people, and to gentlemen and ladies making no profession, as a worthy member of society, possessing much zeal to promote the happiness of mankind, firmly believing that they will be forward to render him all the pecuniary aid he needs to accomplish this laborious and hazardous mission for the general good of the human family.

Ministers of every denomination, upon whom Mr. H. shall call, are requested to hold up his hands, and aid him by their influence, with an assurance that such as do this, shall have the prayers and blessings of a poor and an afflicted people, whose blood has flowed to test the depths of their sincerity, and to crimson the face of freedom's soil with *Martyrs' Blood.*

Mr. Hyde is instructed by this Conference to transmit to this country nothing but simple facts for publication, entirely disconnected with any peculiar views of theology, leaving each class to make their own comments and draw their own inferences.

Given under our hands, at the time and place before mentioned.

JOSEPH SMITH, junior, Chairman.

ROBERT B. THOMPSON, Clerk.

So emaciated was President Brigham Young at this time, from his long sickness, and journey, that when Elder Richards returned home this day from a mission to Clitheroe, and found him in his room, he did not know him.

Sunday, 12th. Several of the Twelve bore their public testimony to the Gospel, in the Cock Pit, Preston.

The High Council of Nauvoo met at my house, when I proposed that brother Hyrum Smith go east with Oliver Granger to settle some business transactions of the Church, which the Council sanctioned, and voted, "that President Joseph Smith, junior, make the necessary credentials for Oliver Granger and Hyrum Smith."

Monday, 13th. From the second of October, 1839, to this date, there have been 145 shocks of earthquake in Scotland, reported by Mr. Milne in the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Some of these shocks were sufficient to alter the natural levels of the ground more than two degrees, and some witnesses thought four degrees, and caused houses to rock like boats on the sea.

Tuesday, 14th. A Council of the Twelve, namely, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Parley P. Pratt, Orson Pratt, Wilford Woodruff, George A.

(To be continued.)

Smith, and John Taylor, was held at the house of Elder Richards, in Preston, England, when Willard Richards was ordained to the Apostleship, agreeable to the Revelation, by President Young, under the hands of the Quorum present. Other business was transacted, as also on the following days, all which may be seen by reference to President Young's letter of the 17th instant.

Wednesday, 15th. Elder Orson Hyde left Liverpool for Jerusalem.

Thursday, 16th. Elder Orson Hyde met with John E. Page at Lima.

The Latter-day Saint's Millennial Star.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1855.

NEWS FROM UTAH AND THE UNITED STATES.—On the 23rd we received Numbers 23 to 25 of the *Deseret News*, and on the 25th we received the letter mail from the Valley. Some interesting communications will appear in our next. In addition to what will be found in another part of the Star, we gather the following items from the *News*.

Riley Jacob F. Bechtel, late of the German Mission, and Captain of the first company of this year's emigration, died on the 2nd of July, on Kaysen's Creek, between Kearney and Leavenworth. His body was placed in a tin coffin and buried on the 8th.

The following persons had been selected to go on mission.—As L. Collier, James Lavender, and Joseph S. Scofield, for England; Horner Dinsmore, Christian Christensen, Jacob Hopkins, John F. Snedaker, Morris J. Sheddaker, John Oulu, William Allen, Alexander Ott, Thurston Simpson, Andrew Cunningham, Andrew Bigler, and Mark Bigler.

The eastern mail, which left Independence July the 23rd in G. S. L. City on the 2nd of August, accompanied by Elder Seth M. Blair. The U. S. Post Office department had acted on the suggestions of Judge Elias Smith, Post Master, at G. S. L. City, and of T. McCoshan, Esq., Post Master at Independence, and provided locks for all through sacks of mail matter to Utah, which will no doubt insure safer transmission of papers and periodicals on the route.

On the afternoon of August 5th, G. S. L. City was visited by a refreshing shower of rain, which put out the mountain fires, purified the air, swelled City Creek, and slightly moistened the parched earth.

Editor A. Carrington, editor of the *Deseret News*, had been confined to a dark room for several days, with a severe attack of inflammation of the eye, but was getting better.

Professor O. Pratt had generously proffered his services, previously to the arrival of G. S. L. City, and vicinity, to instruct a school in the higher branches of science, students furnishing rooms, books, &c.

Two hundred and ten pounds of marine sugar had been forwarded to G. S. L. City

City from Provo, as tithing on 2,100 lbs., made from the saccharine deposit on the leaves of trees.

Hon. Garland How, U.S. Land Agent, returned on the 22nd of August from a very pleasant and successful visit to the Indians on Muddy River, on the north route to California, of 200 lbs. has been added to the area of country, since visited by

Much progress is being made in home manufactures, particularly in leather and

cloth, villages of 200 and 300 inhabitants are now to be found in the valley.

Dr. J. M. Bernhisel had been unanimously re-elected as the Delegate to Congress from Utah, also from his age he is old and ill.

There appears to be no prospect of any of the Saints going hungry the coming year. Everything in the valley bears the impress of peace, happiness, and progress. Surely the Lord is abundantly blessing His people.

From the St. Louis Luminary, of September 29th, we learn that Elder Orson Spencer was then too ill to resume his labours in the editorial department, but the chills and fevers had left him and there was a prospect of his being able in a short time to resume his labours.

Several orders for books had been received from the Cherokee nation, which evinced a disposition on the part of the people of that nation to read and search for the truth.

Elder Benjamin Clegg, in a letter from Texas, gives an account of the persecutions of the Saints in several places in that State. In Leon county, the Saints were all ordered to leave. Elder Clegg states that he had travelled over a large extent of territory, preaching the Gospel, and had baptised about 20 persons.

President E. D. Bassett arrived at this Office at 11 o'clock on the evening of the 27th ult., having Elder W. H. Kimball in London, where they both arrived on the morning of the same day, after an absence of three weeks, having, through the blessings of the Lord, fully accomplished the object of their visit to the Continent.

The release from the confinement of this Office, the change of air, and scene, and the consist of travelling, have constituted every material trial, expense, and diversion; both the body and mind of President Richards, which will enable him to resume, with an increased efficiency and satisfaction, his arduous duties in the busy and laborious season now at hand.

From the 1st ult. we bear (Aug. 15) good reports as to the crops, especially in the valley, where the grain is in full flower, and in full ripeness, some 40 bushels per acre, imperial—some 30 bushels per acre, emerald, stamped, white, other improved varieties have not been touched.

In Utah, especially at Provo and Monticello, we understand that, though an abundance of wheat is raised, and the blessing of the Lord, the crops generally will be heavy, because of the unusual dryness.

Corn looks well, and the prospects are good for a fair yield throughout the Territory, and in some sections it will be the principal grain. In many fields in the neighbourhood of this city we have noticed indications of serious injury to the crops from a destructive worm, and it will be well for farmers to examine their corn, and if possible prevent further loss, for surely we shall need all that can be raised.

Teachers are doing finely, and with

plenty of corn and potatoes, there will be no danger of starvation.

Oats, from all we can learn, will not be an average yield. Many fields were cut for fodder while yet green, to save the grasshoppers the task of devouring them.

Of the late re-sowing, that which has been well irrigated looks promising, but where water is not in abundance, which is the case in various portions of this county, the yield will be small; but in most instances good fodder will be raised, which is, the present season, no small item.

Melons are plenty in market, though very late, on account of the early and repeated failures, and subsequent re-sowings at a late period. While the weather continues warm, we may enjoy them; but late melons, in cold weather, by those who have regard for health, should not be eaten.

The sugar beet crop will be almost an entire failure in many parts, having been seriously injured by the grasshoppers.

Fruit, in the upper portions of the city, will be somewhat abundant; in the lower portions there will be but little, having been cut off by the late frosts.

Shade trees, we are glad to notice, are becoming very numerous throughout our city, and flourish exceedingly.

The weather for the past few days has been cool and pleasant during the day; the nights often quite chilly—high winds prevailing considerably.

The fires in the mountains still continue, notwithstanding the rain, and in consequence our view is much diminished in extent, by the masses of smoke which cover the mountains, and sometimes fill the valley.

The temporary covering of the Bowery with willows is being completed.

A perspective drawing of the Temple may be seen in a frame at the Governor's Office. The work of cutting the stone for the walls is going forward vigorously.

The plastering and finishing of the Temple Block wall is progressing finely—the north line being completed, and nearly one-half of the eastern.

Fine houses are being reared in various portions of the city; and while the erection of fine houses, and the spirit of improvement generally manifest, is a pleasing token of the perseverance and enterprise

of the Saints, let them not, in the multiplicity of their own concerns, forget the House of the Lord. We say to the Saints, let the completion of this House be always before you, and fail not to render such aid in the work as God has placed within your reach.

The health of the city is generally good, though among children there is considerable sickness, and some mortality. Inflammation in the eyes has been, and still continues to be, quite prevalent. Doubtless the health of children would be greatly increased by a more judicious treatment from mothers. But while tea, coffee, meat, bread, &c., &c., however small the quantities, are introduced to infants, who are wholly incapable of digesting such food—or any other but that supplied for them by nature—our children will sicken and die.

Punches, matrices, and moulds are being prepared by brother Sabina, for casting type of the New Alphabet; and we are in hopes of seeing, ere long, a font of handsome letter cast, and primary books in the new style printed for the use of our schools.

Zion is flourishing, and her sons and daughters rejoice in her prosperity. Peace prevails in Utah, and great is the peace of those who keep the law of the Lord.

Elder P. P. Pratt arrived in this city, by the northern route, on Saturday, 18th inst., after an absence of fifteen months; he has preached and published the fulness of the Gospel throughout California with considerable success.

He was accompanied by Elder James Hawkins, who has been absent from this city, on a mission to the Sandwich Islands, about six years, Elders Thomas Morris, R. Mowery, and Joseph Peck, who returned from his mission to the Islands on account of ill-health, and others.

The party met Col. Steptoe's command on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada. Judge Hyde was examining the country to ascertain its facilities preparatory to the location of the shire town of Carson County. The Indians on the road were friendly. Feed and water plentiful, with the exception of the forty-five miles drive.

Messrs. Livingston, Kinkead, and Bell, the pioneer merchants of this city, have just received their first train of goods, which arrived here on the 15th inst., composed of 46 heavy loaded waggons.

EXCURSION TO FILLMORE.—Our delegate, the Hon. John M. Bernhisel, and General Wells left this city, Tuesday, 21st instant (August), and drove to Springville. On the 22nd they reached Nephi, and on the 23rd arrived at Fillmore, 152 miles south of this city.

They visited the South wing of the State House, whose walls are of red sandstone, where they found the workmen busily engaged in placing the flagging in the basement story, laying the floors in the first and second stories, and arching the ceiling of the large hall in the upper story, preparatory to lathing and plastering.

The sash were all in, and outside doors all hung, and a temporary entrance stairway finished.

The work on the building will soon be ready for the plasterers and painters, who it is expected will be immediately sent from this city; and all efforts are being made to complete the rooms so far as to comfortably accomodate the Library, and the next Legislative Assembly, which adjourned to meet on the second Monday of December at that place.

Corn and potatoes at Fillmore, and at other places between here and there, look promising for a fair crop; but grain and hay are an entire failure, except at Springville and Provo, where they will probably have wheat sufficient for their own consumption; there is considerable hay cut at Pleasant Grove and American creek.

Kanoshe and all the Indians met with on the route were very friendly.

Big Cottonwood Canal is progressing, several sections being about finished. All the heavy jobs north of Big Kanyon Creek have been let by brother John Sharp to hands engaged on the Public Works, who are temporally thrown out of their usual avocations in consequence of the failure of grass for the cattle employed in hauling rock from the quarry.

Brother Thomas Tanner, foreman in the Public Works blacksmith's shop, accidentally fell over an obstruction on the

side walk, Wednesday evening, July 31st, by which he was seriously injured internally. He lingered in much pain, and died on Friday morning the 2nd inst. Brother Tanner was full of integrity to the cause and to his brethren, and has simply left his body to rest, awaiting a resurrection with the Saints.

From a letter from Elder L. N. Scoville to brother Joseph Cain, dated, Provo City, July 31, 1855—

"Last week a sweet substance was discovered on the leaves of the trees. A few began to gather it by stripping off the leaves and soaking them in water; in this way brother A. Daniels made 11lbs of sugar in one day. It looks and tastes like maple sugar. Many scores of men, women, and children are now engaged in gathering it.

"Brother Aaron Daniels has just brought in three specimens, which he sends to your care, and which you will please to deliver as follows, viz.: one cake to President B. Young, one to brother George A. Smith, and the other to brother A. Carrington. Brother Daniels says he made 20lbs yesterday, and he thinks it is getting better every day.

"When it was first discovered some said that it was honey dew, others said it proceeded from the cotton-wood leaves, but it is found on all kinds of leaves and on the rocks. My children have gathered and brought in a quantity of it, which they had taken from the leaf, as it is deposited; many of the leaves have scales of this sweet substance as thick as window glass, and some a great deal thicker.

"Brother Daniels tells me that his process is to cut the twigs from the trees and after soaking in water, strain and boil, similar to making maple sugar. I have tasted some excellent metheglin made from the same substance."

Married, in this city, on Saturday, August 25th, by Elder Gilbert Clements, Mr. William Robinson and Miss Annie F. Boyer.—*Deseret News.*

"I DID as the rest did," This tame, yielding spirit—this doing "as the rest did," has ruined thousands.

TO THE GIRLS.—Mrs. Swisshelm says:—"The secret you dare not tell your mother, is a dangerous secret—one that will be likely to bring you sorrow."

It once seemed as impossible for mortals to make steam engines, steamboats, and telegraphs, as it now seems to "make a flower, resurrect a body, or create a world." When we shall become acquainted and as familiar with eternal things as we are with earthly things, it will be all clear, simple, and easy.

Foreign Correspondence

After crossing the North Platte, near 400 miles from G. S. L. City, Aug. 19, 1855.

President F. D. Richards.

Dear Brother.—Having a few moments to spare, and an opportunity to drop you a line by way of some packers accompanying the Salt Lake mail, I take pleasure to inform you that the 3rd company of our emigration is thus far advanced in good health and fine spirits, excepting a few cases of measles, which progress quite favourably.

Our cattle are in good condition, although the feed has not been good, on account of drouth. The streams, especially the Platte, are quite low, unusually so; many of the smaller streams having dried up, which puts me to extra watchfulness to search out the best feed and water for our stock. In all my crossing the Plains, I never saw such favourable roads, neither greater prosperity in any company since, through the appointment of Elders Milo Asdrus and Richard Ballantyne, I took charge of the company, which had advanced sixty miles from Mormon Grove. Previous to then, through disorder and disobedience, the destroyer came into camp, in the form of dreadful cholera, and swept off 25, 3 being often buried in one grave; also when I came to camp 25 were on the sick list. My soul was pained and moved upon when I saw our well-beloved Elders, S. H. Earl, John Mayer, H. E. Phelps, and George C. Reeser, all from missions, worn down in burying the dead, and administering to and taking care of the sick, by night and day. They proved faithful, and overcame the powers of death by virtue of their anointing and faith in the Gospel.

The promise sent by me to camp was, if the Saints would repent, and receive me and my counsels, the powers of death should leave the camp, which was the case, and I can testify that not one new case causing death came into camp. But the destroyer was rebuked until perfect health was restored, for which we truly thank and praise God, our Father in heaven. Not being a welcome visitor to Mr. Lucifer, the great opponent of

our Gospel and faith, he made war with me, for I only had time the first evening to form camp, being much fatigued from the toils of the day and administering to the sick, when I was attacked with the cholera. I felt to plead with the Lord thus—“Oh Lord, who knowest the secrets of the heart of man, thou knowest I have come according to appointment in the midst of death to bless this camp, and lead them to Zion; therefore remember thy servant in mercy, and spare his life.” I called upon the Elders, who anointed me with oil, praying over me, and I do know the power of life was given me, although the Elder administering partook of the disease so as to vomit, and have the cramp, but he recovered the next day. I was able to move on the camp, for which I feel to thank God.

Truly the time is coming that was spoken of by the Prophet Joseph, when none but the pure in heart will be able to go up to Zion. Then the angels of the Lord will go before and watch over His faithful servants by land and sea.

This trip is a pleasure to the faithful, who have Zion in view. How beautiful to see tents and wagons on the green plains bedecked with fragrant flowers, as a natural garden.

The 1st and 2nd companies are three days in advance, in fine health and spirits. This is the 3rd company. Elder Scoville was captain of 2nd company. Doubtless you have heard of his death.

I must close in haste, desiring to be remembered to all the faithful Elders and my friends in Europe. May heaven's choicest blessings rest upon you and them, until we meet in the Redeemer's kingdom.

As ever, yours in the love of the Gospel,
EDWARD STEVENSON.

THE PLAINS.

(From the "Luminary" Oct. 6.)

Fort Bridger, August 30th, 1855.

Dear Brother Hart—

President Snow and myself arrived here this morning about 7 o'clock, having travelled sixty-eight miles since yesterday morning. We have been prospered on,

on our journey, and expect to breakfast in the Valley the day after to-morrow morning.

We are glad to be able to say that the emigrating companies of Saints are getting along finely. Their cattle look generally well, although from the protracted drought, grass is exceedingly scarce. We hope that before the later companies get along here the fall rains will have caused the grass to spring up, otherwise I fear they will suffer much.

We travelled from Fort Kearney to this place without an escort. The commanding officer at Fort Kearney could not spare a dozen men to escort the mail party; but all the force on hand was ready to march against the Indians to punish them for murdering the mail party last year, and on the same ground that we were obliged to pass over, exposed to the same danger. Charming consistency! At Fort Laramie the same excuse was offered; several hundred men, but all on duty. The mail must lie by, or go on through the most dangerous part of the Indian country unprotected. Brother Snow and myself left the mail party on the evening of the 17th inst., and started on alone, after commanding ourselves to the protection of Heaven.

The second day out from Laramie we overtook the first company of P. E. Fund emigrants, in charge of Captain R. Ballantyne, assisted by Elders Sloane, Pitt, Gardner, and Wager. They were about twelve miles beyond Laramie and were progressing finely. The Saints in this company seemed to enjoy the journey very much, though most of them walked almost the entire distance. It was not a little wonderful to me, to see ladies with whom I was acquainted in the east, and knew as being sickly and delicate, unable to walk three and four squares, to market or shopping, without experiencing much fatigue, walk fifteen or twenty miles a day, and come into camp at night with light hearts, singing the songs of Zion, and praising their God that they were able to endure so much for the Gospel's sake. Captain Ballantyne is indefatigable in his exertions to promote the well-being of the Saints under his charge, and enjoys the unbounded confidence and esteem of his entire company. We journeyed with this company until the morning of the 24th, when we left them two miles above Deer Creek, and drove on briskly and

overtook Captain Moses Thurston, with his company, about fifteen miles in advance of Brother Ballantyne. His company is all well. They have not lost by death a single person, cattle, or horses, since their departure from Mormon Grove. We left on the same evening at 9 o'clock at the upper crossing of the Platte, and drove in company with a couple of young men who volunteered to go two days' travel with us. They turned back at the Warm Springs on the morning of the 27th, and we have travelled the remainder of the journey to this place alone. The mountaineers and traders on the route are much frightened, and assured us we were running serious risks to travel unguarded. But we trusted in the Lord, and we have been thus far preserved. We turned our mules loose and lay down in our carriage, trusting in kind Providence to preserve us and our animals. Yesterday morning the 29th we came up to brother Blair's company in charge of Captain Stevenson. They were all well, and getting along quite well. While I am writing this, brother Guyman is just starting out with the second company, all well.

Captain Hindley with the first company was escaped on Bear river yesterday. We shall start in a few minutes, and on the morning of the 1st proximo we hope to greet our wives and children and friends in the valley of the Saints.

Sister Hampton and Mary will be glad to learn that I saw Anna in Captain Thurston's company, quite well, and much pleased to hear from home, and meet brothers Snow and Charlie. And sister Amanda will be gratified to know that I saw our brother Billy in brother Blair's company, quite well, and we had a warm shake of the hands and an hour or two of friendly chat together. President Snow sends love to all the Saints. A kind remembrance to sister Hart, and believe me your fond brother in the Lord.

CHARLIE.

P. S. This Fort has been recently purchased by the Church, and is now occupied by the Saints. We met here some ten or twelve wagons loaded with flour going out to meet the companies, for fear they may run short; also several yokes of oxen are going out to replace those that may have died from the effects of alkali water or other causes.

C.

SANDWICH ISLANDS MISSION.

(From the "Deseret News," Aug. 22.)

G. S. L. City, August 5, 1855.

Editor of the News.

Sir—At the request of the Historian, I submit the following short sketch of my mission to the Sandwich Islands; and if you think proper, you may insert it in your columns.

I left this place in company with brother Keeler and others on the 11th of October, 1849, for California. On arriving at Utah Fort, (now Provo) we fell in company with a number who were on their way to the land of gold; here we organized ourselves, making brother J. M. Flake our captain until we could overtake Elder Charles C. Rich, who was a short distance in our advance.

I arrived in the mining district about the first of March, and laboured faithfully for the yellow pieces until the 15th of October, 1850; and on the 19th, bid farewell to "old Slap-jack bar" in company with nine others, bound for the Sandwich Islands to preach the Gospel, being set apart for that purpose by Elder C. C. Rich.

On the 12th of December, 1850, we landed in Honolulu, the seat of government of the Hawaiian nation, not a single soul of us understanding the first word of the language. The day after we landed, we washed our bodies in pure water, went on to a high mountain overlooking the town and shipping, gathered each a stone, erected a small altar, sung a hymn, and all bowed down, being agreed before-hand what we should ask for.

The Spirit of the Lord was mightily poured out upon us, and Elder John Dixon spoke in tongues, and Elder James Hawkins prophesied that the Lord would bless us even more than what we asked for; and in fulfilment of this, in one year from that day, between four and five hundred natives had been baptized.

Some of the elders got the language, and in three or four months were preaching and baptizing. As for myself, it took me nearly two years to acquire the language so as to preach in public. However, I felt that the Lord was with me, and at no time did I feel to falter in my endeavours.

I was on the Islands three years and seven months, and was instrumental in the hands of God in bringing many of the

islanders to a knowledge of the truth; for which I feel thankful, and rejoice that I was sent on that mission. In fact I never felt sorry even while there, although sometimes I felt lonesome and almost discouraged.

The natives are a kind-hearted people, and will do all they can to make you comfortable; will give the last mouthful of food, and the best and only bed; and if your legs are weary through walking, they will lomi (rub) them and take the soreness out.

We made our homes wholly with the natives, living on their diet, which was principally poi and fish, sometimes dog. The poi is made from the kalo root, baked under ground and mashed on a large wooden platter with a stone pestle, and is mixed in water until a thick paste is formed, and is sometimes eaten in a sweet state, but generally put aside until it ferments, in which condition it is preferred and is eaten with the fingers.

They have many traditions, and some of them seem to have some foundation. They say they had a flood, and a native was swallowed by a large fish as Jonah was. They had their cities of refuge for the shedder of blood to flee to; offered sacrifices to their gods; the shark, the volcano on Hawaii, a dog, and hog were all worshipped; almost every family had its own god, even if it was made of wood or stone. They had their prophets, and their priesthood descended from father to son.

I have talked with several who affirm that they have conversed with the voices of their dead friends, and they tell them that their spirits and all the spirits of their dead are here in this world, that there are myriads of them living in the air.

One native told me that there was once a man living among them, who had been dead, and he reported that all the dead were still on the earth, living on fruits that grow on trees, and generally seemed to enjoy themselves well. The country was level, except two little hills, but there was no sea in that country, and yet he affirmed that it was identically these islands. He said the reason why he came back was, the people would not let him stay, but drove him back into the body.

They affirm that there is no such horrible place as a pit of fire and brimstone for the wicked, as they are taught by the Gentile missionaries.

It is a common thing among the natives, both men and women, when about to be overtaken in a shower of rain, to divest themselves of nearly every garment and tie up their clothing to keep them from getting wet.

Their skin is dark, like the Indians of these mountains, but better featured, and many are smart and highly educated; clean in their person and dress. Many are rich, and live in fine houses built either of wood or coral, well painted, and furnished with the best of household furniture.

In July, 1854, at a general conference held in Honolulu, Elders Cannon, Farrer, Hawkins and myself were released from

our missions, and about the 13th of August, arrived at San Francisco, California, where, from want of means to come home, I was compelled to labour with my hands until 23rd of April last, when I left in a company of Saints, organized by Elder Parley P. Pratt, for this place, under the presidency of Elder W. McBride, who acted as a friend and brother.

We arrived on the 21st of July, all in good health and spirits; and I feel to praise the Lord God of Israel for His mercies and goodness unto me, in bringing me safely back to my friends and brethren in these peaceful valleys of the mountains—"my lovely mountain home."

H. W. BIGLER.

Varieties.

Out of 320,000 men sent by Russia to the Crimea, it is officially stated that about one third are left.

ACCOUNTS from Egypt state that the exportation of corn will be prohibited, in consequence of the insufficiency of the overflowing of the Nile giving reason to fear a famine.

Go preach to blocks and stones, ye who believe that love is the clay! Go preach to the dead, ye who deny the immortality of the affections. Go reason with trees, or hills, or images of wood, or with your own motionless, lifeless, icy souls, ye who believe that, because that there is no marrying yonder, there shall be no embracing, or because we may not use the gentle words "my wife," we may not clasp these sanctified forms in our own holy arms! I tell you, man, that immortality would be a glorious cheat, if with our clay died all our first affections. I tell you that annihilation would be heaven, if I believe that when my head at length rests on its coffin pillow, and my lips sink to the silent repose of death, these loving eyes will never look into mine again, this pure clasp never be around my neck, this holy caress never bless me more.—*The Old House by the River*.

AN UNEXPECTED FINISH.—Speaking of the tendency of temperance orators to set forward themselves as previous examples of the blighting effects of drink, the London correspondent of the *Inverness Advertiser* says:—"This predilection was smartly satirized the other evening at a temperance meeting. A person in the hall got up and said, 'My friends, three months ago I signed the pledge. (Clapping of hands and approving cheers.) In a month afterwards, my friends, I had a sovereign in my pocket—a thing I never had before. (Clapping and loud cheers.) In another month, my friends, I had a good coat on my back—a thing I never had before. (Cheers and clapping much louder.) A fortnight after that, my friends, I bought a coffin.' The audience was going to cheer here, but stopped and looked serious. 'You wonder,' continued the lecturer, 'why I bought a coffin. Well, my friends, I bought the coffin because I felt pretty certain that if I kept the pledge another fortnight I should want one.'

SOUND DOCTRINE.—In a sermon delivered by Rev. Dr. Bellows of New York, before the Western Unitarian Conference, is the following paragraph:—"For my part, I say it in all solemnity, I have lived to become sincerely suspicious of the piety of those who do not love pleasure in any form. I cannot trust the man that never laughs; that is always sedate; that has no apparent outlets for those natural springs of sportiveness and gaiety that are perennial in the human soul. I know that nature takes her revenge on such violence. I expect to find secret vices, malignant sins, or horrid crimes springing up in this hot-bed of confined air and imprisoned space; and, therefore, it gives me a sincere moral gratification anywhere, and in any community, to see innocent pleasures and popular amusements resisting the religious bigotry that frowns so unwisely upon them. Anything is better than dark, dead, unhappy social life, prey to enmity and morbid excitement, which results from unmitigated puritanism, whose second crop is usually unbridled license and infamous folly."—*Ohio Columbian*.